Express Mail No. EV668295392US
Date of Deposit: June 2, 2006
Attorney Reference Number 5585-68214-02
Application Number: Currently unknown

SLR:dm 06/01/06 534294 RCD/P104185US PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND PROPERTY OF THE 2 JUN 2006

In re application of:

Xin Lu and Nadia Godin-Heymann **Application No.** Currently unknown

Filed: Herewith

Confirmation No. Currently unknown

For: SCREENING ASSAY AND TREATMENT

Examiner: Not yet assigned Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Attorney Reference No. 5585-68214-02

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the fees and examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows to comply with national stage requirements.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 5.

Remarks begin on page 15.

An Abstract is attached as a separate page at the end of this document.